

## **Planned surgery completes needed repair following October's Colonic perforation**

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Charlie Wilson (OH-6) is in stable condition in Washington tonight after undergoing a planned surgical procedure. This follow-up surgery was the final step to Wilson making a complete recovery after sustaining a colonic perforation during a routine screening colonoscopy in early October.

"I had a routine screening colonoscopy in October – like people my age are supposed to have. This is such an important procedure in preventing cancer. I'm happy to report that they did not find any cancer," Wilson said. "However, I did suffer some damage during the procedure and that led to complications. This can happen in about one in a thousand colonoscopies," Wilson said.

Wilson had to undergo emergency surgery in October. At the time he spent a week in the hospital, including five days in intensive care. Today's planned surgery will require less recovery time.

"Today's surgery is the last step in making all the necessary repairs from, what I like to call, my 'October surprise.'" Wilson said. "I spent time over the holidays resting, so I went into this planned surgery strong. I also deliberately scheduled this final step in the recovery process as early as I could and at a time when I knew I wouldn't miss many votes in Congress," Wilson added.

Congress is currently not in session and returns to Washington January 15.

"I want to thank all of the wonderful doctors and nurses in Washington who've seen me through this difficult episode. It's been a rough couple of months, but all of the well wishes and prayers from friends at home have made a huge difference. I'm looking forward to a healthy and strong 2008 and wish the same for everyone."

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